

ABSTRACT

Disclosed is a method and system for controlling access to a television set using a remote control unit having a
5 finger verification means. The method includes the steps of:
placing at least one finger on the remote control unit for
scanning; obtaining fingerprint data indicative of the
scanned finger; comparing the fingerprint data to
predetermined reference data to establish a fingerprint
10 match; and, if a match is established, providing access to a
number of channels associated with the scanned finger. The
system includes a fingerprint reader for generating
fingerprint data; a processor programmed to prompt the user
to enter fingerprint data; and, a fingerprint recognition
15 means for verifying that the user is an authorized user of
the remote control apparatus.